No, an epoxy finish cannot be applied directly over a sealed concrete slab. Sealers block penetration and bonding, meaning the epoxy will fail to grip, leading to bubbling, peeling, or total delamination. You must completely remove the sealer via mechanical grinding or shot-blasting to expose bare, porous concrete before coating. Reddit · r/DIY +2

To help you visualize what a finished surface looks like, the image above shows a completed blue epoxy coating.

Why Direct Application Fails

- **Zero Adhesion:** Sealers block moisture and chemicals, acting as a barrier that prevents epoxy from biting into the concrete pores.
- **Delamination Risk:** Even if the epoxy sticks at first, foot traffic, vehicle tires, or temperature changes will cause the coating to peel away in sheets.

Proper Preparation Steps

- **Test the Floor:** Pour a few drops of water on the slab. If it beads up instead of soaking in, a sealer is present.
- **Mechanical Removal:** Use a diamond grinder or shot-blaster to strip off the old sealer and open up the concrete's pores. Acid etching will not work on a sealed surface because the acid cannot react with the concrete underneath.
- **Clean Thoroughly:** Vacuum all dust and debris completely before applying a compatible primer or base coat. Reddit · r/DIY +3